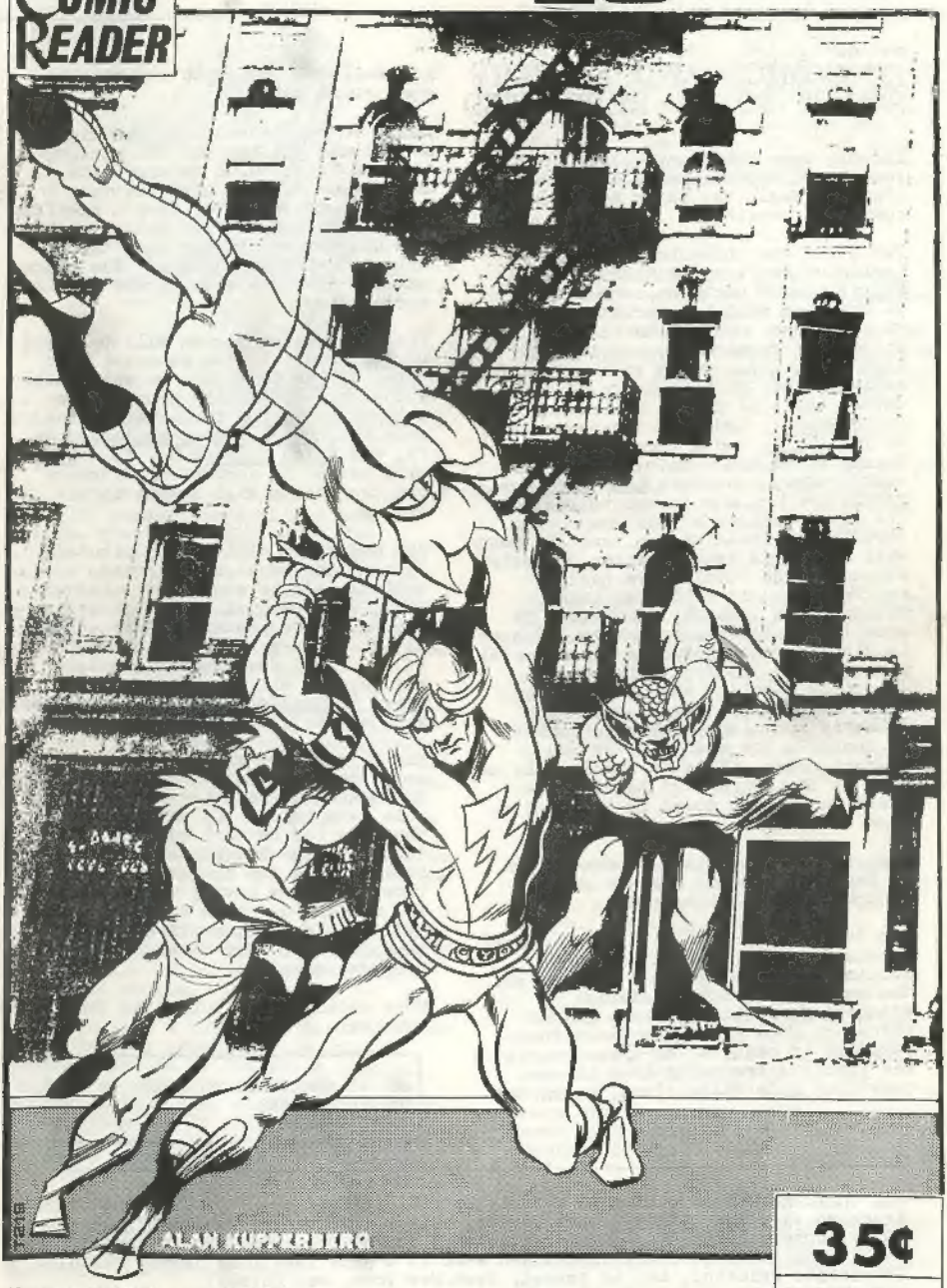
THE COMIC READER

IN THIS ISSUE:

EC COMIX



"DRACULA LIVES"
NEW MARVEL B&W...
PG 4

35¢

92

ET AL:

EC COMICS AND EISNER'S SPIRIT TO BE REPRINTED

The big news this month comes from fandom, as announcements were made of plans to begin two major series of comic art reprints.

The first one chronologically is a series of reprints of Will Eisner's Spirit Sunday sections. Each month 10 sections will be reprinted and sold as a package. Only Eisner's work is slated for reprinting, and it will take about three years to complete the series. Each reprint is in black & white, the same physical size as The Comic Reader, and contains seven pages of The Spirit and a page of copy by Eisner about the events behind that week's story. Neither Lady Luck nor Mr. Mystic are included in the reprinting. The first package of ten was unveiled at Creation Con, and the next will follow in late December or early January. The stories are being reprinted in chronological order, although the June 23, 1940 story is absent from the first package. Eisner is planning and producing the material himself, and California fan Dave Gibson is handling the distribution. They are available under varying subscription plans, and at a variety of dealer's (or quantity, if you prefer) rates. Some of the details as well as the address of Spirit Publications can be found in their ad on page 30 of this issue.

The second series is a planned batch of East Coast Comic Company underground comix reprinting ECs.

Ron Barlow and Bruce Hershenson (whose combined previous credits include Badtime Stories, the 1972 EC Con, and the memory book of EC material produced for that con) have joined forces to form "The East Coast Comic Company" in order to do these reprints. The reprints are being done in co-operation with Bill Gaines, using the original art, and with a virtually open ended future.

Barlow & Hershenson have the rights to reissue all the old ECs, except for Mad Magazine, as undergrounds. Each issue will reprint the four stories and the cover from a specific original issue in full color for $1. The only thing missing from the original will be the ads. The books will be the same size as the original comics also.

The first three issues will be Crypt Of Terror No. 1 (the material from Tales Of The Crypt No. 46 which Bill Gaines had originally planned for a Crypt of Terror title before the code hit, Shock Suspense Stories No. 12, and Weird Science No. 15. CoT will be out in January or February and the others will follow in the spring.

The magazines will be distributed through the usual underground outlets, ads in major fan publications, and eventually a subscription system. More issues will released at intervals governed by the sales of the first few issues. Options are held on all the ECs, so if Weird Science sells the odds are that more of stuff will be done.

The EC reprints will almost certainly cause the over-inflated prices on ECs to bottom out, as they contain the same material as the originals with the same (or better) quality reproduction. The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide, for instance, lists the three books as having values of $9, $12 and $25 and this does not even reflect the maximum prices that they have fetched. Now those prices will drop drastically.

More details will follow as they become available.

ET AL CONTINUES ON PAGES 14 & 15 OF THIS ISSUE.

THE COMIC READER is published monthly by TCR Publications, 393 East 58th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11203. Paul Levitz, editor. Volume 1, Number 92, December, 1972. Single copy: 35¢. Subscriptions: 3 for $1.00 or multiples thereof. The box on your address label is checked when it's your last paid issue. Printed by Interstate Printing, 444 62 Street, West New York, New Jersey.
PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS AND OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO PAUL LEVITZ IN US FUNDS.

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Marvel News

The major news from Marvel this month is new formats. They are putting a full line of black & white magazines into production, and one pulp or digest.

THE BLACK & WHITE magazines will be 75¢ each, 76 pages. Several are planned and the first few will be in the horror or mystery vien. The ones now on the drawing board are set to be bi-monthlies. The first title, Dracula Lives!, will be released in February and the others will follow. The books will contain some reprints and features as well as straight stories.

DRACULA LIVES! will continue the adventures of the character running in the 20¢ comic, among other features. There will be several stories using the characters from the comic. Gene Colan, Alan Weiss, and Rich Buckler have all done stories for the magazine.

I hope to have detailed information on at least two more of the black & whites next issue.

Roy Thomas is editing the black & white mags, but both Sol Brodsky and Marv Wolfman will be doing some of the editorial chores.

There is also a pulp or a digest, whichever term you prefer to use for the modern versions of the pulps (Analog, Galaxy, et al). Gerry Conway is the editor on this one, assisted by George Alec Effinger. It will be 75¢, bi-monthly, and will contain some 80,000 words of horror stories. The release date on this book is March. No title is set as of now.

Writers who will be in the digest include Leiber, Ellison, McAffrey, Lafferty, Bunch, and O'Neil.

£ £ £

SF comes to Marvel next year in the form of a monsters & sci fi comic entitled Worlds Unknown. Each issue will contain about 18 pages of new material (leaning very heavily towards adaptations) and a few pages of reprints. The first issue will contain Fredrik Pohl's story "The Day After The Day The Martians Landed" (adapted by Gerry Conway & Ralph Reese) and an Edmond Hamilton story adapted by Gil Kane. The Pohl story is from Dangerous Visions. A three page Angelo Torres reprint rounds out the issue.

£ £ £

John Romita has been given the post of art director, and as a result has had to give up all regular artistic chores so Gil Kane is taking over on Spider-Man again. He'll give up both Warlock and Marvel Team-Up. Team-Up will be taken over by Jim Mooney.

£ £ £

Barry Smith has returned to the US and will be doing some work for Marvel, but not Conan. He may do an occasional special issue, though.

£ £ £

Outlaw Kid has been cancelled. Ringo Kid will have one issue with new material (a Steve Englehart-Dick Ayers story which has been on the shelf for about six months) and then will start re-reprinting stories. If the original issue does particularly well, then the book may go new. Plans for The X-Men to shift from reprint to new remain pretty much stalled.

£ £ £

A somewhat belated congrats to Marie Severin on the occasion of her being appointed coloring director last month. It slipped out of TCR somehow.

£ £ £

Some new material (6 pages or more) of new strips will be running in the reprint books soon. The first ones to be affected will be the mystery line. When there is a little more time to spare around the office, some series may be developed for the reprint books.

£ £ £

Starlin has done one Doctor Strange and may continue to be the artist on that book. If not, Brunner will do it.

£ £ £

Howie Chaykin will be doing the art for War Of The Worlds.

£ £ £

Upcoming Daredevil stories will have a variety of artists. Sam Kweskin & Syd Shores on No. 99, Colan on 100, 101 by Buckler, 102 by Shores, and from 103 on Rich Buckler will be taking over as the new regular artist.

£ £ £

Editorial dumbness dept: I missed out on reporting that last month's FF was a fill-in issue layed out by Ross Andru. Sincere apologies. And just to prove that it won't happen again (until next time) I'll mention that this issue's Coming Comics includes an issue by Ramona Fradon. For those of you with short memories, Ramona earned her footnote in comics history by drawing Aquaman for most of the Nineteen-fifties, as well as a stint on Metamorpho.

£ £ £

Bill Everett, the creator of Sub-Mariner, is in the hospital after suffering from a heart attack. I'm sure all of fandom joins me in wishing him a speedy recovery.

£ £ £

Frank Bolle is the new inker on Man-Thing and Werewolf By Night.

£ £ £

Mike Ploog has given up Ghost Rider now that Werewolf is monthly. Tom Sutton is the new artist.

£ £ £

Thor is a copy-right character of the Marvel Comics Group.

National News

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NEW BOOKS are coming from a number of the editors at NPP. Finalized plans for Joe Simon's titles call for two love titles (Young Love and Young Romance), two new Simon titles (full details next month probably), a Simon & Kirby title, and a reprint version of Black Magic.

Julie Schwartz is also going to be doing a new title next year. To make room for it, Justice League of America has been dropped to bi-monthly frequency, and Detective Comics has been given to Archie Goodwin.

Archie will take over Detective with No. 437, the September issue. Those of you with swiftly operating minds will realize that this means that Detective is going bi-monthly, for the first time in its history.

Before Schwartz gives up Detective, a Hawkman story by Nelson Bridwell, Rich Buckler, and Dick Giordano is slated. Also still to appear are episodes of Jason Bard and the Elongated Man. Archie Goodwin will be starting a different back-feature which will appear in every issue when he takes over. No decision yet on any changes in the script/art staff on the Batman portion of Detective.

Rounding out the tally of new books

(C) 1972 by Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc

with new material are two Kubert edited titles. Kubert will do no art for them, except possibly some layouts. Kubert will do some of the writing. The first issue of one book is in the drawer and will be put on the schedule as soon as one or two more books come in. The second title is still in the planning stage.

The other new title is Boy Commandos, a reprint title which Nelson Bridwell will edit. Only Simon & Kirby material will be used at the beginning.

£ £ £

THE CURSE OF THE SHADOW strikes again! So far, art chores on The Shadow have been passed from Berni Wrightson to Jim Steranko to Alex Toth. Now the book has been taken away from Toth. Toth wanted to do a complete rewrite job on Denny O'Neil's script. The art chores are currently assigned to Mike Kaluta.

The book still will not be scheduled until an issue or two is completely done.

£ £ £

SALES REPORTS have come in on Swamp Thing, Kamandi, and Weird Worlds. Swamp Thing did very well for a first issue (or for that matter for any comic book), Kamandi did fairly well, and Weird Worlds did well enough to be permenantly taken off the doubtful list of titles. It placed right up there with the other Burroughs books.

No reports have come in yet on the Tarzan Digest or the GL/GA paperbacks. The odds are that the Tarzan Digest wasn't a record breaker, because in that case figures or at least guesses would have come in quickly.

£ £ £

ALLAN ASHERMAN will be picking the reprints for the five reprint titles that Jeff Rovin started. The old inventory letter "Q" will be continued.

£ £ £

DC SUPER-SPECTACULAR DEPT.

The Our Army At War issue (No. 16) will feature the following stories: Sgt. Rock in "Make Me A Hero" by Kubert, the first Johnny Cloud -- "The Flying Chief", Mlle. Marie's debut -- "Battle Doll" (art by Grandinetti), Gunner & Sarge in "Gunner's Choice", "The Haunted Tank Versus The Ghost Tank" and the book-length premiere of Capt. Storm -- Killer Hunt". Cover by Kubert.

The Justice League issue has been set with the following line-up: The JSA story is "The Injustice Society Of America". The JLA is represented by two stories: "Drones Of The Queen Bee" and "Card Crimes Of The Royal Flush Gang". The Sandman (non Simon & Kirby) rounds out the issue. Cover by Cardy.

The giants are going back to the old practice of featuring the original covers on the back cover. The Our Army At War is the first one to be done that way.

£ £ £

SECRET ORIGINS No. 2 has had a line-up change. The stories now slated for it are the origins of Supergirl, the new Green Lantern, and the new Atom. The third issue will feature Wonder Woman (from WW No. 1) and Wildcat (from Sensation No. 1).

Boy Commandos No. 1 (the numbering isn't set but it'll be the first ish) will feature stories from Detective No. 66 and a story from No. 1.

Wanted 8 will feature the Dr. Fate originally scheduled for Secret Origins 2 and The Flash in "The Big Freeze" from Flash 114.

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The origin of The Human Target will be in Action 422 and 423.

£ £ £

The Flash will feature a book-length Flash - Green Lantern team-up in No. 222. The script is being written by Cary Bates. No. 221 will wind up the two-part space opera story running in the GL strip.

£ £ £

The Space Museum will replace The Star Rovers in From Beyond The Unknown beginning with No. 23. All the Star Rovers material is exhausted. The first Space Museum story (from Strange Adventures 104) is done by Mike Sekowsky, the rest is by Carmine Infantino.

£ £ £

Editorial ommission department. Some how or other, I have steadily forgotten to mention the existance of Rick Bryant, who is working in the NPP production department since July or so. So next time he asks for a guest admission to your comicon, let him in.

£ £ £

The second issue of Shazam features the return of Mr. Mind and a story about "The Nicest Guy In The World" which caused C. C. Beck to send a fan letter to author Maggin.

Both Nighthawk and the Trigger Twins will be in Johnny Thunder No. 2 along with two Drucker stories of Johnny Thunder.

£ £ £

John Albano has dropped the writing chores on Jonah Hex. Arnold Drake will take over.

£ £ £

Sal Amendola will be doing John Carter of Mars regularly in Weird Worlds.

£ £ £

Dan Greene is the new artist on Pellucidar, beginning with Weird Worlds No. 5.

£ £ £

The Elongated Man joins the Justice League in No. 105, and another new new member follows in the next issue.

£ £ £

Characters (c) 1972 Marvel Comics Group

No Marvels will be released in the last week of December, so don't write in and scream that I missed a week.

£ £ £

INCREDIBLE HULK (162, April). The Hulk remains in Canada, where he encounters the legendary "Wendigo" in "Spawn Of The Flesh Eaters". Script by Steve Englehart, art by Herb Trimpe and Sal Trapani. (1/2)

DAREDEVIL (98, April). DD and the Widow tackle the Dark Messiah's Disciples of Doom in "Let There Be Death". Plus more on the current sub plot. Script by Steve Gerber (from a plot by Gerry Conway), art by Gene Colan and Ernie Chua. (1/2)

IRON MAN (57, April). The new order of priorities at Stark Industries comes under attack in "Strike". Plus the return of The Mandarin and another surprise villain. Script by Steve Gerber, pencils by George Tuska, and inks by Mike Esposito and Frank Giacoia (the inks are excellent according to Gerber). (1/2)

KID COLT OUTLAW (169, April). (1/2)

MILLIE THE MODEL (201, April). (1/2)

CHILI (22, April). (1/2)

MONSTERS ON THE PROWL (22, April). (1/2)

WYATT EARP (33, April). (1/2)

THE OUTLAW KID (15, April). "The Madman of Monster Mountain", a book-length story by Gary Friedrich with art by Dick Ayers and Jack Abel. (1/2)

SHIELD (2, April). "Death Before Dishonor" and "The End Of AIM" from Strange Tales 148 & 149 should be in this issue. Scripts by Kirby and O'Neil, art by Heck and Whitney. (1/2)

THE CAT (3, April). Commander Kraken returns in this issue. Script by Linda Fite, pencils by "Paty" (Greer) and inks by Bill Everett. (1/2)

£ £ £

THOR (210, April). The first part of a two-part fight with Ulik The Invincible (a troll). The title is "The Hammer And The Hellfire". Script by Gerry Conway, layouts by John Buscema, finished art by Perlin, inks by Colletta, and coloring by Glynis Wein. (1/9)

SUB-MARINER (60, April). "The Invasion Of New York" as Namor leads the forces of Atlantis against the surface men again. Featuring such bits as rebellion in the ranks and Namor's latest address to the UN. Script by Steve Gerber, layouts by Sam Kweskin, finished art by Jim Mooney. (1/9)

GUN SLINGER (2, April). (1/9)

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (119, April). The first of a two-parter featuring The Hulk. The title is "Gentlemen Call The Hulk". Script by Gerry Conway, and art by John Romita (his last issue). (1/9)

CAPT AMERICA (160, April). "Enter Solarr" a villain with the power of the sun and an unusual origin. Also, the Falcon feels like a fifth wheel to the super-powered Cap so he strikes out on his own -- maybe. (1/9)

AVENGERS (110, April). Magneto beats The X-Men and then goes after our heroes. Plus a confrontation between Pietro and Wanda over her love life. The start of a cross-over with Daredevil. Script by Englehart, pencils by Heck, inks by Esposito, Giacoia and Hunt. (1/9)

VAULT OF EVIL (2, April). (1/9)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (10, April). This issue reprints the big changeover issue of The Avengers -- "The Old Order Changeth" from No. 16. Script by Stan Lee, art by Jack Kirby. (1/9)

DOC SAVAGE (4, April). The conclusion of the story of the Silver Death's Heads. Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Ross Andru, and inks by Tom Palmer. (1/9)

SHANNA THE SHE DEVIL (3, April). "Moon Of The Fear Bulls" is Carole Seuling's last Shanna script (Steve Gerber takes over next ish). Pencils by Ross Andru, inks by Vince Colletta. (1/9)

THE X-MEN (81, April). "Into The Crimson Cosmos" from No. 33 began the Factor 3 series. Script by Roy Thomas, art by Werner Roth. (1/9)

£ £ £

RAWHIDE KID (110, April). (1/16)

CONAN (25, April). The beginning of the end of the war as John Buscema takes over as penciller. "The Mirrors of Kharam-Akkad" is scripted by Roy Thomas with inks by Sal Buscema. (1/9)

HERO FOR HIRE (8, April). A simple assignment leads Cage to a mystery client and a surprise villain, and the story to a unique conclusion. Script by Steve Englehart, art by George Tuska and Billy Graham. (1/9)

MARVEL TALES (42, April). This issue should reprint either "The Coming Of Ka-Zar" from No. 57 or "To Kill A Spider-Man" from No. 58, it's sequel. Both issues have scripts by Stan Lee and art by Don Heck. (1/16)

ASTONISHING TALES (17, April). Ka-Zar tackles Gemini, a new villain with a split personality who is patterned after the 40s Daredevil. Plus a couple of surprise villains at the end. Script by Mike Friedrich, pencils by Dan Adkins (the new regular artist) and inks by Frank Chiarmonte. (1/16)

COMBAT KELLY (6, April). (1/16)

GUNHAWKS (4, April). The story of the ritual of fire continues in this issue. Script by Gary Friedrich, art by Syd Shores. (1/16)

FEAR (13, April). A new Man-Thing 15-pager entitled "Where Worlds Collide" which takes the monster and Jennifer, Andy, and their mysterious grandfather (from No. 11) into a surreal universe.. or so it seems. Script by Steve Gerber, art by Val Mayerik and Frank Bolle. (1/16)

SUPERNATURAL THRILLERS (3, April). Robert E. Howard's "The Valley Of The Worm" is this issue's book-length adaptation. Script by Roy Thomas and Gerry Conway, pencils by Gil Kane, inks by Ernie Chua, and coloring by Glynis Wein. (1/16)

£ £ £

OUR LOVE STORY (22, April). (1/23)

FANTASTIC FOUR (133, April). "Thundra At Dawn" is a New Year's battle story pitting the Thing against Thundra. Script by Gerry Conway, art by Ramona Fradon, and Joe Sinnott. (1/23)

SGT. FURY (109, April). "This One's For Dino" from No. 38 by Roy Thomas and Dick Ayers is reprinted this month. (1/23)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (8, April). Now monthly. Spider-Man teams up with The Cat in "The Man-Killer Moves At Midnight". Script by Gerry Conway, art by Jim Mooney. (1/23)

LI'L KIDS (11, April). With Calvin. (1/23)

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT (9, April). "Can A Ghost Rider Die?" Script by Gary Friedrich, art by Tom Sutton. (1/23)

THE DEFENDERS (5, April). "Cry Yandroth" finally winds up the ticking machine story as The Valkyrie tackles Yandroth and joins The Defenders. Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Sal Buscema, inks by Frank McLaughlin, and coloring by Glynis Wein. (1/23)

JUNGLE ACTION (4, April). (1/23)

JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY (4, April). The lead story is an adaptation of "The Haunter of the Dock", an H. P. Lovecraft story. (1/23)

CRAZY (2, April). This issue reprints the "Love & Marriage" stories from Not Brand Ecch 6. Scripts by Lee and G. Friedrich, art by Kirby, Marie Severin, and Tom Sutton. (1/23)

WARLOCK (5, April). Enter the Dr. Doom of Counter-Earth. Script by Mike Friedrich, art by Gil Kane. (1/23)

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COMING COMICS

COMING COMICS is a directory of upcoming releases from the various comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are those used by the companies themselves and may be different in your area depending on who your wholesaler is. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, cover date). Description of contents. (On sale date).

£ £ £

OUR ARMY AT WAR (255, March). Sgt. Rock in "What It's Like", the story of a desk sgt. who wants to go to the front and tries to imagine what is going on there. Kanigher & Heath. Plus a Batte-Top Diorama by Glanzman (the creator of the series) and "Red Rain" a Gallery of War story by Bob Kanigher and E.R. Cruz. (1/2)

GHOSTS (13, March). In this issue: "The Nightmare In The Sandbox", Voice of Vengeance", "Have Tomb Will Travel", and "Hell Is One Mile High". Scripts by Leo Dorfman. (1/2)

FALLING IN LOVE (140, April). (1/2)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (106, April).

Batman and Green Arrow join forces with a surprise guest star in "Double Your Money And Die!" Script by Bob Haney, art by Jim Aparo. (1/2)

WONDER WOMAN (205, April). More of the story of Nubia. Script by Bob Kanigher, art by Don Heck. (1/4)

THE PHANTOM STRANGER (24, April). "Apocalypse" closes the multi-part saga of The Phantom Stranger versus The Dark Circle. A 17 page story by Len Wein and Jim Aparo. Plus the second installment of "The Spawn Of Frankenstein" with Doctor 13. Script by Marv Wolfman, art by Mike Kaluta. (1/4)

THE TRIGGER TWINS (1, April). A one-shot reprint title edited by Nelson Bridwell. Included are two Trigger Twins stories: "The Code Of The Trigger Twins" (with art by Ross Andru) and "The Unknown Hero Of Rocky City" (art by Carmine Infantino), and one story of Pow-Wow Smith -- "The Bandit And The Bracelet" with art by Infantino. (1/4)

£ £ £

YOUNG ROMANCE (192, March). (1/9)

MISTER MIRACLE (13, April). "The Dictator's Dungeon" tells the story of where Ted Brown has been for the past twenty years and why he was reported killed in the Korean War. Script and pencils by Kirby, inks by Royer. (1/9)

G.I. COMBAT (159, March). The Haunted Tank in "Mission Dead End". Script by Archie Goodwin, art by Sam Glanzman. Battle Album by Gray Morrow. "Swords At Dawn" by John David Warner and Ric Estrada rounds out the issue. (1/9)

KORAK (51, April). Korak's search for Meriem takes him deeper into the Underworld in a story by Kubert (script) and Frank Thorne. Plus Carson of Venus in "Mutiny At Sea". Script by Kubert, art by Mike Kaluta. (1/9)

WITCHING HOUR (29, March). "It's Your Funeral", "To Perish By The Sword" and "A Time To Live, A Time To Die". (1/9)

SUPERMAN (262, March). Cover by Cardy of "The Skyscraper That Screamed For It's Life". Script by Elliot Maggin, art by Curt Swan & Murphy Anderson. Plus another Private Life Of Clark Kent story -- "The Puzzle Of The Telepathic Twins", script by Elliot Maggin, art by S&A (1/9)

WANTED (7, April). Once again bi-monthly. This issue features the second battle between Hawkman and the Ghost from Flash no. 90 entitled "The Crimes That Couldn't Have Happened" by Kubert. Johnny Quick verus Dr. Clever by Meskin and Hourman against Dr. Glisten. Cover by Cardy. (1/11)

DC 100 PAGE SUPER SPECTACULAR (15, March). This issue spot lights Superboy who appears in "The Trial Of Superboy", "The Boy of The Year Contest", "The Boy Who Was Stronger Than Superboy" and "Superboy's Search For A Pet". Sandman and Sandy appear in "A Drama In Dreams" by Simon and Kirby. Another Simon and Kirby story stars The Boy Commandos in "It Is Not Dull", which is the second Boy Commandos story. From Hawk and Dove no. 3 is "Twice Burned" by Gil Kane. "Dr. Cyclops" features Dial H For Hero from House of Mystery no. 164 with art by Jim Mooney. Finally, Aquaman is in "Menace Of Aqualad" from Adventure no. 270 with art by Fradon. Cover by Nick Cardy. (1/11)

£ £ £

KAMANDI (4, March). Kamandi finds himself caught up in the middle of Las Vegas being invaded by the Tiger-People, the Tiger Commander's capture by the Gorilla people and a whole bunch of other happenings. Art and story by Jack Kirby, with inks by Royer. (1/16)

SINISTER HOUSE (10, March). This issue features "Castle Curse", Cards Never

TODAY'S PLAYGROUND MAY BE TOMORROW'S BATTLEGROUND! SEE IT HAPPEN IN THE WORLD OF
DC
KAMANDI
20¢
THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!
HUMAN! HE MUST HAVE JUST ESCAPED!
ALSO MEET LUTAN PRINCE OF TIGERS MASTER OF MEN!

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Lie" and Losing His Head". Sorry, I don't have the credits on this ish. (1/16)

WEIRD WAR TALES (12, March). "God Of Vengeance", "Hand of Hell" and "The Warrior and The Witch Doctor". (1/16)

YOUNG LOVE (103, March). (1/16)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (142, April). The CO wants to send The Losers out on a mission and send Storm home but in "Half A Man" Capt. Storm heads out to prove that he can handle any mission. Script by Kanigher, art by Severin. (1/18)

STRANGE ADVENTURES (241, April). A book-length Adam Strange reprint -- "The Cloud Creature That Menaced Two Worlds" from Mystery In Space No. 81. (1/18)

LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES (2, March). The Legionnaires get involved in the "War Between Krypton And Earth" in prehistoric Atlantis. Reprinted from Adventure Comics 333. Also Tommy Tomorrow in "The Toys That Stopped Crime". Redrawn Cardy cover. (1/18)

JIMMY OLSEN (157, March). "The Strange Second Life Of Jimmy Olsen" begins a reoccurring series of adventures involving Jimmy and Marco Polo. Plus "Secret Of The Forbidden Face". Scripts by Leo Dorfman, pencils by Kurt Schaffenberger, and inks by Vince Colletta. (1/18)

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN (79, March). New cover by Joe Kubert. Stories are "The Monster Maker" by Kirby and Wood and "The Human Pets" by Kirby and an unknown inker. (1/18)

£ £ £

THE DEMON (7, March). "Witch Boy", the story of a runaway warlock and the attempts of his coven to recapture him. Script and pencils by Kirby, inks by Royer. (1/23)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (212, March). In this issue: "Ever After", "Oh Mom! Oh Dad!" and "Halfway To Hell". (1/23)

LOVE STORIES (149, March). (1/23)

SUPERGIRL (4, March). Sorry, no info other than the fact that both Supergirl and Zatanna have stories in this issue. (1/23)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (168, March). The Unknown Soldier in "The Glory Hound". Script by Archie Goodwin, art by Jack Sparling. Plus a World War One air war story of the Zeppelains which is supposed to be an excellent job by Tom Sutton. Cover by Kubert. (1/25)

THE UNEXPECTED (145, March). In this issue: "Grave Of Glass", "Maniac At Large" and "Newton Northrup's New Brain". Cover by Cardy. (1/25)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (106, March). In this issue: "Curse Of Harappa", "Island of No Return", and "This Will Kill You". (1/25)

THE DOOM PATROL (123, March). From DP 95 comes a book-length Haney-Premanini story -- "The Menace Of The Turnabout Heroes" which pits them against the Animal-Vegetable-Mineral Menace. (1/25)

DARK MANSION (10, April). In this issue: "The Monster", "Clearance Sale" and "They Walk By Night". (1/25)

£ £ £

G.I. WAR TALES (1, April). Edited by Jeff Rovin. The War That Time Forgot is represented by "The Guinea Pig Patrol" from Star Spangled War. Plus two non-series reprints "One Man Road Block" and "Stragglers Never Come Back." (1/30)

WEIRD MYSTERY TALES (5, April). In this issue: "Will You Listen?", "Dream House" and "Legacy Of The Damned". (1/30)

DETECTIVE COMICS (433, March). A special whodunit tale offers readers the opportunity to outguess The Batman in a tale of triple murder -- "Killer In The Smog". Script by Frank Robbins, pencils by Dick Dillin (his first full story for Batman) and inks by Dick Giordano. Plus Jason Bard in "The Case Of The Forged Face." Script by Frank Robbins, art by Don Heck. (1/30)

TARZAN OF THE APES (218, March). "The Trophy", the story of a big game hunter whose only interest is hunting (not a rerun of The Most Dangerous Game, however). Script and art by Joe Kubert. Beyond The Farthest Star continues with another chapter by Murphy Anderson. (1/30)

ACTION COMICS (422, March). Superman in "The TV Show That Menaced Metropolis". Script by Cary Bates, art by Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson. Plus the first of the two-part Human Target origin story -- "The Shadows Of Yesterday Contract". Script by Len Wein, art by Dick Giordano. (1/30)

On sale during the same week, but listed in TCR 93:

Our Army At War 256
Ghosts 14
Weird Worlds 5
Justice League Of America 105

Late News & Corrections

Howie Chaykin will marry Diana Grazjunas on December 18th, according to our gossip columnist. Congrats and the best of luck to them both.

The Science-Fiction Book Club is offering a Frazetta illustrated hardcover edition of the 4th and 5th John Carter of Mars books.

Recently issuedwas a $6.95 softcover book "Comics: Anatomy Of A Mass Medium" by German comic book fans Reinhold Reitberger and Wolfgang Fuchs. The publisher was Little, Brown & Co.

The LA Times ran an article on Shazam in their Nov. 16 edition. Quotes from Infantino, taped when he was on the coast last month dot the article. Xeroxes are available for 18¢.

Stan Lee was the subject of a half page article in the Deleware Evening Journal. Copies are available for 15¢ & an SSAE from David Finger, 4404 Tennyson Rd, Brandywine Hills, DEL 19802.

(c) 1972 Marvel Comics Group

Ernie Chua will be inking John Buscema's pencils on Conan as of No. 26.

Steve Englehart will be scripting Dr. Strange as of Premiere No. 9. Plans are for far-out material and concepts never before used in comics. Meanwhile, he handed Doc Savage over to Gardner Fox. Fox will script No. 5 from an Englehart plot and from No. 6 on will be doing all the work.

"The Files Of Dr. Spektor" is a new Gold Key title, true. However, ye ed mistook "Western" (as in Western Publishing) for western (as in shoot-em-up). My apologies and thanks to Mark Evanier who pointed it out.

Will Eisner did the cover for Snarf 3, an underground published by Krupp. Speaking of Krupp, their latest catalog lists the following item...

> THE SPIRIT NO. 1. Reprints of classic WILL EISNER stories from 1946, with a dazzling new wrap-a-round cover that is not only a visual delight, but displays a new "liberated" Eisner that will shock older comic freaks. May contain new material inside as well. The first of an outstanding new series.

If this develops, it may be quite a treat for fandom. I'll keep you posted.

Warren News

Beginning with the issues on sale in January, the fan club pages will be dropped from the Warren books and will be replaced by a single page split between two features: Zine Scene and Where It's Happening. The first is a fanzine review column (zine editors please send zines for review purposes) and the second is devoted to news of upcoming comic conventions. Both were originated by Marv Wolfman during his stay.

Bill DuBay will be taking over as editor at Warren now that Marv has left his post as script editor.

Dracula was released at Creation Con and Phil Seuling reports that it sold 80 copies at his table alone (some five dealers were carrying the book.).

That Dominquez cover that was printed last issue in TCR will not see print. A new cover was chosen for that issue of Eerie.

EERIE No. 46. Dracula begins his solo series with "And An Immortal Dies" (script and art chores on pages 1 & 2 by Bill DuBay, the remaining art is by Tom Sutton due to deadline problems). The final installment of Dax is entitled "The Giant." (re-write by Steve Englehart, art by Estaban Moroto). Plus "The Things In The Dark" (script by Ott, art by Janes), "Garganza" (script by Neary, art by Bill Warren), "Root Of Evil" (script by Jennings, art by Salvador), "Planet of The Werewolves" (script by Boudreau, art by Crandall). (1/9)

● GOLD KEY

GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES No. 8 (1/4)
DAFFY DUCK No. 148
WOODY WOODPECKER No. 128
WALT DISNEY CHIP & DALE No. 20
DAGAR THE INVINCABLE No. 3

HANNA-BARBERA HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS No. 5 (1/11)
BULLWINKLE & ROCKY No. 7
W.D. BEAGLE BOYS No. 16
TUROK No. 83
W.D. HUEY, DEWEY & LOUIE No. 19
WACKY WITCH No. 10

GOLDEN COMICS DIGEST No. 28 with TOM & JERRY (50¢) (1/16)
MYSTERY COMICS DIGEST No. 10 with RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT TRUE GHOST STORIES (50¢)

LETTER
FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to what's affectionately called "Levitz's Folly" around the office -- a slightly monsterous issue of The Comic Reader. Or had you noticed?

A few words of explanation: For sundry reasons, this issue of TCR had to be extra thick (ie, more than one ounce). To offset the additional cost, more advertising matter had to be added. Then a chance arrived to run the pamphlet on Warren's new book, and I added that, feeling it a valid addition to TCR. Anyway, back to normal next month.

On news gathering notes. The execs at Charlton will not release news, much less Coming Comics listings, so that kind of makes that a dead end. Bud Plant, on a brighter note, will be continuing his "Undergrounds" column at irregular intervals. He has recently been tied up with opening a store, and that's why it has been conspicuously absent. Another bright note is that Mad Magazine news will probably be a regular feature of TCR in the near future. All in all, a fair balance.

By the time you next read an issue of TCR, Etcetera and True Fan Adventure Theatre will have been mailed. I'm pleased with both of these new ventures and I wish you would all at least try the first issues.

I would appreciate your comments on our new type size and physical format, and your recommendations and/or questions about future TCR issues. And, of course, contributions are always welcome.

The cover this month is Alan Kupperberg's rendition of Warlock and a bunch of the beast men. The characters are (c) copyright 1972 by the Marvel Comics Group.

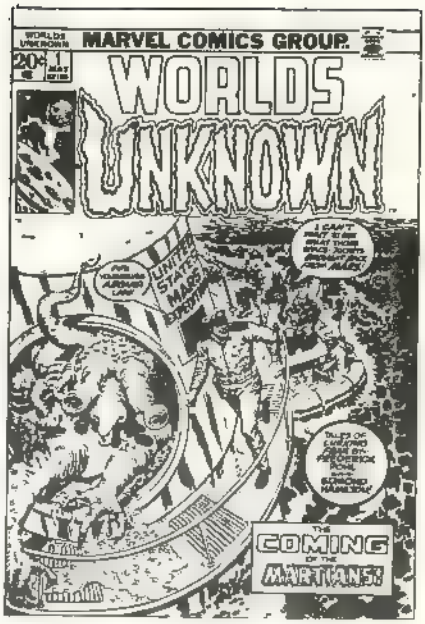
Hey, Tony Isabella now has an address and I no longer have to be bothered by his junk mail. So will all of his friends please address their further hate mail to 1778 East 2nd Street, Brooklyn, New York (no zip known yet).

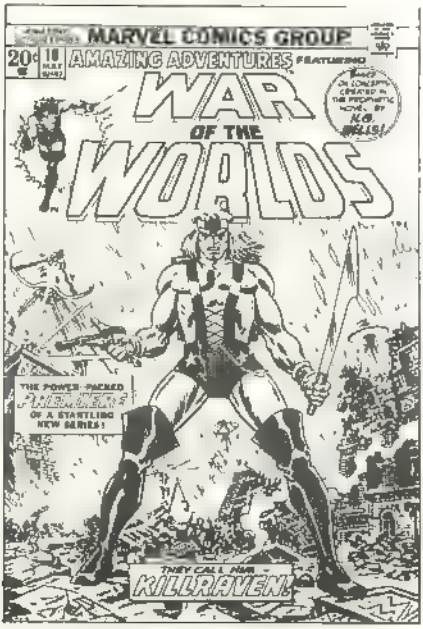
W.D. O'MALLEY & THE ALLEYCATS No. 6 (1/18)
TWEETY No. 29
PINK PANTHER No. 11
THE JUNGLE TWINS No. 5
LITTLE LULU No. 210
MOD WHEELS 8

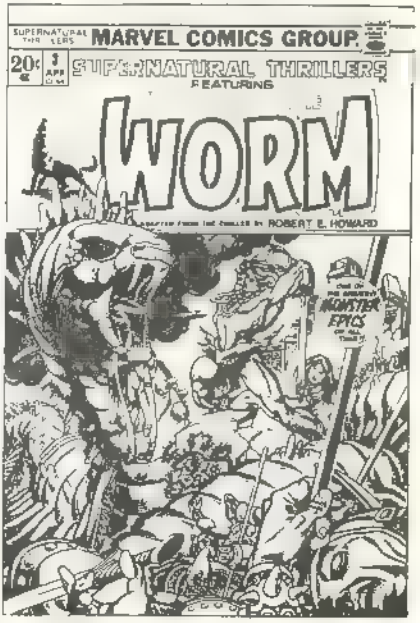
W.D. COMICS & STORIES No. 390 (1/25)
TWILIGHT ZONE 48
LIDSVILLE 3
BUGS BUNNY 148
MARCH OF COMIX TUROK & BABY SNOOTS

COVER GALLERY

Beginning with this issue, each issue of TCR will feature about three Marvel covers, courtesy of Roy Thomas and John Verpoorten. Now, as I have a certain amount of choice in which covers I get (from DC as well as from Marvel), I would appreciate your comments and suggestions. Put <u>your</u> list of covers on a post card and send it to "Cover Gallery", TCR Publications, and I'll try and abide by your choices wherever possible, Okay?







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ET AL

COSMICON ON JANUARY 26 27 & 28
COMIXSCENE OUT
HERITAGE 18 OUT

MEDIA

The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour of November 10th, 1972 guest starred Superman and Lois Lane. The occasion was one of Cher's "vamp" skits, in which she portrayed Lois Lane. The effect was straight out of a Joe Shuster illoed story, down to the hairdo.

£ £ £

My radio debut on WMCA's Malachy McCourt show last month lasted a half hour and included four or five phone call questions.

£ £ £

Spider-Man has been the star of a five minute per episode radio serial here in New York for the past month or so (sorry, I've forgotten the channel but it might be CBS-fm) and the episodes have been collected into a record album which is now available. Spidey himself showed up at Manhattan's Korvettes Department Store to autograph copies.

£ £ £

Amicus Productions, who were responsible for "Tales From The Crypt", has announced that they will begin production soon on a sequel called "The Vault Of Horror". Also adapted from EC stories, it will be directed by Roy Ward Baker from a script by Milton Subotsky. The cast will include Tom Baker, Michael Craig, Glynis Johns, Edward Judd, Curt Jurgens, Terry-Thomas and others. It is due for release sometime in 1973.

£ £ £

For sf & fantasy fans: "Dune" by Frank Herbert will become a movie. It will be produced by Arthur (Planet Of The Apes) P. Jacobs. United Artists will be making "Lord Of The Rings". That will be produced and directed by John Boorman with screenplay by Boorman and Rospo Pallenberg. Heinlein's "Stranger In A Strange Land" will be produced by Jerry Brandt with screenplay by Lewis John Carlino.

£ £ £

Stan Lee is doing the screenplay for "The Monster Maker", a suspense melodrama produced by Martin Ransohoff and directed by Alan Resnais.

£ £ £

Producer Krantz and his director on "Fritz the Cat", Ralph Bakshi, have signed a contract to produce three more animated features in the next three years with a total budget of $3,000,000. The first of these films will be called "Heavy Traffic".

£ £ £

Upcoming animated films include the following: "Charlotte's Web", to be produced by Michael Campus and based on drawings by Bent Barford. American National Enterprises will be making a partially animated, partially live film of "Gulliver's Travels", which will be produced by Josef Shaftel with music by John Barry and Don Black. Also there is an animated film called "Hugo the Hippie" coming, with the voices of Burl Ives and Paul Lynde

£ £ £

The preceding five items are from Richard A. Vincent. Thanks, Rich.

OBITUARY

Ralph Alfonso, the co-editor of the Canadian newsletter Le Beaver was run over by a speeding car in Montreal last month. Among his accomplishments is the organizing of Montreal fandom, the Quebec Panelogists' Society Bulleten, Le Beaver, and a zine that will be published posthumously -- Canazine.

Ralph was a member of two apas also. His Apa-5 membership will be dropped and his Canadapa membership will be filled by his younger brother John.

Ralph was 17 at the time of his death.

A fuller obit ran in Le Beaver 16. Cliff Letovsky will continue Le Beaver.

FANZINES

The seventh and last issue of Shazam! The Wonderful World of Comix has been published by Neal Pozner. It is 52 TCR sized pages and includes full-length, illustrated interviews with Carmine Infantino, Billy Graham, and Bernie Bubnis. Also included are articles on Ads And Animation (as told by Mort Drucker), Newsday's Graphic Opinion strip, and an adventure of The Phandom Stranger (who appears fairly regularly in True Fan Adventure Theatre) entitled "An

Autographed Paper Drinking Cup." Plus art by Jenson, Kirby, Cockrum, Shores and more. The book is $1 from Neal Pozner, 4028 Anne Drive, Seaford, NY 11783.

£ £ £

The first issue of Comixscene, the long promised Supergraphics newsletter is out. Comixscene is bi-monthly and edited by Gary Brown (whose old newsletter Comic Comments had a fine reputation for a number of years). I won't comment on my competition, but if you want to try a copy it is available for 50¢ from Supergraphics, Box 445, Wyomissing, Pa, 19610.

£ £ £

-273°C, Scott Harris' article/letterzine is going to be published on a quarterly schedule in the future. Scott's last issue, No. 8, appeared in June and subscribers were also sent copies of Hemogoblin, a zine which Scott published as their 9th issue. No. 10 is promised for the near future.

£ £ £

The Buyer's Guide will be charging a $2 subscription fee in 1973.

£ £ £

The earlier mentioned Hemogoblin is available for 50¢ as a separate fanzine. It contains articles by Jeff Anderson, Greg Potter, Dave Kasakove and others. Jeff Strell and Robert Greenberger, the famed supernecs of New York fandom are the editors. Order from: Harris at 3056 Ann Street, Baldwin, NY 11510.

£ £ £

ITEMS for this column concerning fanzines or any other type of fan-oriented news is eagerly accepted and generally credited. If you would like your zine mentioned, send a couple of paragraphs about it (or better yet a copy so it can be covered eventually in the Fanzine Reviews section) to TCR Publications, 393 East 58 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11203.

£ £ £

Heritage Number 1B is out. It contains strips by Neal Adams, Reed Crandall, Estaban Moroto,&Bruce Jones. There's a text feature on Alex Raymond and Flash Gordon by Larry Ivie and a number of pin-ups and other features. This volume has more pages than 1A, although it is slightly smaller due to a decrease in the weight of the paper. The cost is $5 and it will be reviewed next month by Liam O'Connor.

£ £ £

Other new releases: Comic Crusader No. 13 and Capt. George's Whizbang No. 14 with an article on Operator Five.

£ £ £

Paragon Illustrated No. 4 is now out. It includes a Girl From L&D strip by Black, a Steranko cover, a report on Macabre Cinema, a Shade strip guest starring The Defender and the Space Guardian, and a fiction piece by Tom Fagan. 56 pages for $1.50. The address is in the Fanzine Review section.

£ £ £

CONVENTIONS

Creation 72 came off quite nicely this past Thanksgiving weekend. Attendance hovered at the 2,000 mark and some 120 dealers' tables were sold. A full report on the events will appear in Etcetera No. 1, but suffice to say that there will be another Creation Con next Thanksgiving weekend.

£ £ £

The guests of honor for the 1973 July Comic Art Convention are set. They are C. C. Beck of Shazam, Russell Meyers of the Broom Hilda daily newspaper strip, and Burne Hogarth of Tarzan fame. A regular series of convention progress reports will begin in TCR in the early spring.

£ £ £

The second annual Cosmicon will be held on January 26th thru 28th at York University in Toronto. Events will include a rock band, some twenty-five science fiction and fantasy films, numerous guests from the comic industry, panels & displays. The dealers' room will have room for 100+ tables, and they can be reserved for $25 per. A 3 day membership in advance is $5 ($6 at the door) and supporting is $2. Money should be sent to Mark Sigal, 459 Lytton Blvd, Toronto 12, Ontario, Canada.

BOOKS

Comic fan Max Allan Collins reports that two of his novels -- Bait Money and Blood Money -- will be released as Curtis paperbacks in January. Both feature a major character who is a young (early twenties) comics fan. This character plays Robin to the other major characterh Batman. Both, however, are professional thieves. Another of his books, one without any comic interest is entitled Mallory and it will be released around March.

And Mark Hanerfeld was last seen investigating property on the isle of Elba.

FANZINE REVIEWS

LIAM O'CONNOR

FANDOM SPECTACULAR 72 -

PARAGON GOLDEN AGE GREATS

FANDOM SPECTACULAR 1972: Only two times in my life have I felt that I had no control over the situation that I was in. Or in other words, that my back was up against a wall. One instance was the opening of Creation Con this year (see Etcetera No. 1) and the other case involves this fanzine(??).

The reason for this is that most of the time I try to avoid reviewing bad fanzines. This is an exception to my self-imposed rule because of the impressive advertising and the high price tag.

Quotes from the ad...

"Republishing the best material from the best fanzines..."

"All this in a thick, squareback binding..."

This is a highly overpriced mag. The "thick...volume" is 84 pages. The inside front cover, inside back, and two interior pages are blank.

The whole book is a downer. Out of the twelve year history of the fan movement, ten fanzines are included in this volume. The zines used all date from the offset period of fandom so no new layout work was done. All the work is reproduced straight from the printed copies, often with disasterous results such as super-sized single pages and super-small newspaper reprints. The limitations of offset also made sure that no really early fan work could be used. Alter-Ego and most of the early fanzines were done ditto after all.

Very little of the material comes off with a timeless value. Most is dated. The timeless articles are devoted to The Ghost Rider and The Black Angel (both written by Tom Fagan),&the Goodguy strip by Hanley. The rest is all dated. Some is good, some is poor, and some of it is downright rotten. There are no credits given to the fanzines where the material originated, or in some cases to the authors.

The price is $5.00, and I recommend that you don't buy it unless the price drops to $2.50 or less. Even then I might stay away from it.

The ads proclaim "our greatest publication" frankly, if this is DynaPubs best I think they should get the hell out of fan publishing. As a matter of fact, a lot of prominent fans are left out entirely.

I see very little that is good, much less spectacular in this zine.

Fandom Spectacular 1972, $5, 84 pages, available from DynaPubs, RR 1, Box 297, East Moline, IL 61244.

PARAGON GOLDEN AGE GREATS: This is an art portfolio with work by Adkins, Black, Griem, A. M. Jones, Don Newton, Royer, Shores, and reprints by Eisner and Everett.

The zine does quite a few of the Golden Age heroes in pin-ups. All the art is beautiful, as all these people know how to draw well. There is also a short history of each character, and an article by Tom Fagan on how he became a comic book collector.

I highly recommend this volume as it will be kept in a place of honor in my collection.

Paragon Golden Age Greats, $2, 48 pages, available from Paragon Publications, Bill Black editor, 701 Shell Street, Talahassee, FA 32303.

COMIC CRUSADER 13. Starting out with a very impressive cover by Jim Steranko, Marty Greim strikes again.

Marty finishes off the "David Manning....The Defender" strip that began many a year ago. This installment is 19 pages long and represents some of Marty's best work. The story is excellent, and the plot doesn't suffer if you haven't read the previous segments. Marty swipes like crazy but he says, "...enjoy the story and the way I use (the swipes)." There is an uncertain end to the Defender which leaves room for a sequel. I hope that he returns very soon.

Next Tom Fagan pens an informative and nostalgic article on the number 13 or the luck caused by that number, both good and bad. Some characters covered by the article are Lady Luck, 13, The

Black Cat, and Dr. 13 -- The Ghost Breaker. Tom does a fantastic job on something he laughingly calls "not deeply researched".

Then comes an interview with Joe Staton, who did the Primus title for Charlton. The interview is well conducted and the answers are fairly informative. It goes into the life and hard times of a comic book artist.

Mr. A by Steve Ditko is my favorite strip outside professional comics and the eight page installment printed here (originally for a school newspaper) is up to the usual level of quality. Steve took time out to go over Mr. A's philosophy and added a lot of backround material, with Mr. A's appearance being limited to the last three pages. I believe this was done because the strip was done for a non-fan audience.

Letters and a Gil Kane Capt. Marvel piece finish off the issue. The price has gone up, but it remains one of the best buys in the fanzine business.

Comic Crusader No. 13, 75¢, 40 pages, available from Martin L. Greim, Box 132, Dedham, MA 02026.

●

FUNNYWORLD 14 is a magazine devoted to animation and comic art. This is an excellent zine with high quality material, as shown in three long articles, one Rich Corben color strip, and other fun things.

Mike Barrier, the editor, does a long article on "Fritz The Cat". Part one is printed in this issue, containing three sections. Section one entitled "Bucking The Tide" gives Ralph Bakshi's (the director) views on animation, past and present, as well as his work in the field. Section two, is about his life as a poor boy in Brownsville, and how he got into animation. Section three deals deals with hassles with Crumb over the rights and production of the film. There is a gold mine of information about Crumb in this section.

Next is an article on color in the undergrounds. It is well written (by Mark Estren), but I can't vouch for its accuracy since I am not an avid reader of the undergrounds.

"Going Home" by Rich Corben is just fantastic. The art is up to Corben's usual high standards, and as an extra treat the eight pages are in full color. There is no way to tell you how great this strip is, so buy the magazine.

I. Klein relates how he broke into the animation field and what his first few jobs were like.

Ub Iwerks is the subject of a study, and an analysis of the mark he has left on the field of animation. The article recounts his early days on the coast with Disney, how he left Disney for his own company, and back to Disney again. The massive volume of work he did is unique.

Carl Barks Bibliography - part eight - compiles the work done on Donald Duck and the reprints of his material done by Gold Key. There is a critique on the Donald Ducks, at times by Barks himself.

Letters and full color covers nicely finish up the issue.

Although I am not too interested in animation, I would highly recommend this zine to anyone interested in the field, or who likes to read a great fanzine.

Funnyworld No. 14, $1.25, 48 pgs, available from Mike Barrier, Box 5229, Brady Station, Little Rock, Ark 72205.

●

THE COMIC DETECTIVE No. 2 is devoted to Alfred Andriola and his work on Charlie Chan, Dan Dunn, and mostly Kerry Drake.

Cover by Andriola of Kerry Drake and his friends and foes. This is followed by Bart Bush's editorial, and statement of plans for the future.

An interview with Andriola, explaining his work, views, and some plans for Kerry, follows.

There is a profile after the interview, which really should have preceded it, as the material in the profile is expanded upon in the interview. Next is a two page spread of the introduction of Kerry Drake.

A speech by Andriola delivered at the first International Comic Exposition last April, is transcribed. It covers the subject of taboos in the comic strip business. This is very interesting as the unwritten rules come out reading like the Comics Code. Then Andriola gives some of the bad and good effects of this system.

Twenty-six dailies are reprinted from Charlie Chan, and eight years of "Merry Christmas from Kerry & Al" are also included. The back cover is a beautiful Chan piece by Andriola.

While the zine is good, it is not great because it just covers the one subject , and is of value only to people who are interested in it.

Comic Detective No. 2, $1, 40 pages, available from Bart Bush, 713 Sugar Maple, Ponca City, Okla 74601.

PHIL SEULING'S COMIC BOOK MARKETPLACE

★ SECOND SUNDAY ★

SCHEDULE & INFORMATION, OCT. 1972 to JUNE 1973

SECOND SUNDAY, which has been called a "monthly convention," passes its first anniversary in December 1972. This gathering of fans, collectors, and dealers interested in comic books (and related areas) has quickly become a tradition in the New York City area, attracting four or five hundred people each time. Its size and popularity have led to the only difficulty, which is locating a large enough available space on a continuing basis.

By this time, though, contracts have been signed for another long period of time, and you can schedule your future Sundays by the calendar printed below.

There had to be a rise in the admission price because of higher rental and advertising costs, but the one dollar price is designed to be (still) the best bargain price for any similar activity. And the price stays the same for the length of this schedule, since contracts guarantee steady costs.

We hope you continue to find SECOND SUNDAY the attraction and entertainment you have found it in the past. Here's to more and better comic books!

OPENING TIMES: No one admitted before 10:00 a.m.
CLOSING TIMES: Promptly at 5:00 p.m.
PLEASE HELP US KEEP THE HALL CLEAN AND IN GOOD ORDER. THANKS.

OCTOBER 15	140 East 8 St. (near Broadway) 11th floor ballroom	
NOVEMBER 12	The McAlpin Hotel (34 St. and Broadway) in the	Green and Blue Rooms
DECEMBER 10	140 East 8 St.	Eleventh Floor Ballroom
JANUARY 14	The McAlpin	Crystal Ballroom
FEBRUARY 11	The McAlpin	Crystal Ballroom
MARCH 11	The McAlpin	Green and Blue Rooms
APRIL 8	The McAlpin	Crystal Ballroom
*MAY 20	The McAlpin	Crystal Ballroom
*JUNE 17	The McAlpin	Green and Blue Rooms

(* WATCH OUT! THESE ARE THIRD SUNDAYS !)

★★★

ONCE-IN-A-BLUE-MOON
COMIC BOOK BARGAIN OPPORTUNITY!

I HAVE JUST BOUGHT AN INCREDIBLE LOT OF OLD COMIC BOOKS IN THE SPARKLER-TIP-TOP LINE. THESE BOOKS WERE STORED FLAT ON SHELVES IN A DRY PLACE, THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY TO PRESERVE STACKS OF BOOKS IN THE EARLY, PRE-PLASTIC BAG DAYS. AS A RESULT, THESE BOOKS RANGE FROM VERY GOOD TO QUITE EXCELLENT. (I STILL BELIEVE "MINT" APPLIES ONLY TO COINS, CALIFORNIA CULTISTS, AND CANDY). HOWEVER, THEY ARE DRY AND WOULD NOT STAND BEING USED AS FLY-SWATTERS OR BEING HANDLED ROUGHLY. EVERYONE WHO HAS SEEN THEM AND BOUGHT FROM THIS LOT HAS CALLED THEM BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND BARGAINS. ORDER ACCORDINGLY.

IF THE RAREST OF BOOKS ARE $5.00 OR $10.00 LOWER THAN YOU'D EXPECT, THAT'S BECAUSE I PAID LOWER PRICES FOR THIS LOT. TAKE ADVANTAGE.

TITLE	PRICE PER COPY	TITLE	PRICE PER COPY
CAPT. AND THE KIDS 22	.50	TIP-TOP 51,56,68,77	6.00
COMICS ON PARADE 16	7.50	80,82,83,85	5.00
FRITZI RITZ 11,12,15,26	.50	115,117	1.00
NANCY & SLUGGO (COMICS ON PARADE 79)	.50	181,186	.50
SPARKLE 24,25,27,29	.50	TIP TOPPER 5,8,9,10	.50
SPARKLER 97,100,108,116	.75	20,22,23,24	.50

AND HERE ARE SOME GEMS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND SINGLE SERIES 24 BEAUTIFUL COLORFUL 64-PAGE BOOK OF SUNDAY NEWSPAPER COMIC PAGES. 7.50

DANNY DINGLE SINGLE SERIES 8 FULL 64-PAGE BOOK OF SUNDAY COMICS REPRINTS. 5.00

PETER PAT SINGLE SERIES 8 ANOTHER REPRINT BOOK ORIGINATING IN THE SUNDAY FUNNIES, 64 PAGES 5.00

SPARKLER 1 (JIM HARDY) AFTER THIS ONE LUSH EXPERIMENT IN SINGLE CHARACTER SUNDAY COMICS REPRINTS, SPARKLER BEGAN WITH ANOTHER FIRST ISSUE FEATURING SPARK-MAN BUT THIS IS THE FIRST FIRST. 12.50

TAILSPIN TOMMY SINGLE SERIES 23 AIR ADVENTURES IN THE DRAMATIC AND SKILLED ARTWORK OF HAL FORREST. 10.00

LI'L ABNER SINGLE SERIES 4 AL CAPP'S EARLIEST EXCURSIONS INTO HILLBILLY WIT. THE FOUNDATIONS OF DOGPATCH ARE LAID. 15.00

OKAY 1 (CAPTAIN AND THE KIDS) THERE IS NO BETTER, FULLER COLLECTION OF THIS GREAT COMIC STRIP. THE BOOK IS EXACTLY LIKE A FOUR COLOR OR SINGLE SERIES. 10.00

LI'L ABNER (COMICS ON PARADE 30) ANOTHER 64-PAGE COMIC BOOK DEVOTED TO ONE STRIP, IN THIS CASE EARLY AL CAPP. 10.00

PHIL SEULING
621 AVENUE Z
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11223

ORIGINAL AL CAPP LI'L ABNER
SUNDAY COMIC PAGES

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ISSUE 2 STAR TREK SPECIAL $2 THIS with the Kirk Spock version of the greatest TV sci-fi show ever! Interviews with Nimoy and Shatner profile on Roddenberry and The Last Days of the Enterprise And for the comic freaks preying in the Bronx, how to paint the STAR TREK Comics and day-glo men here's all And more and more unpredicted by Clay Morrow

ISSUE 3 GIANT BUGS ON THE MUNCH $ Fly with us as there are swarms of the "Hey Bank" and Stan Lee as Lawyer, Hall Mark Hoffman in Juggernaut in a comics and a Jack Bushe Elgin Hoffman Jane and Plus features on THEM Vernon Fry Am and Mark Hoffman Monster!

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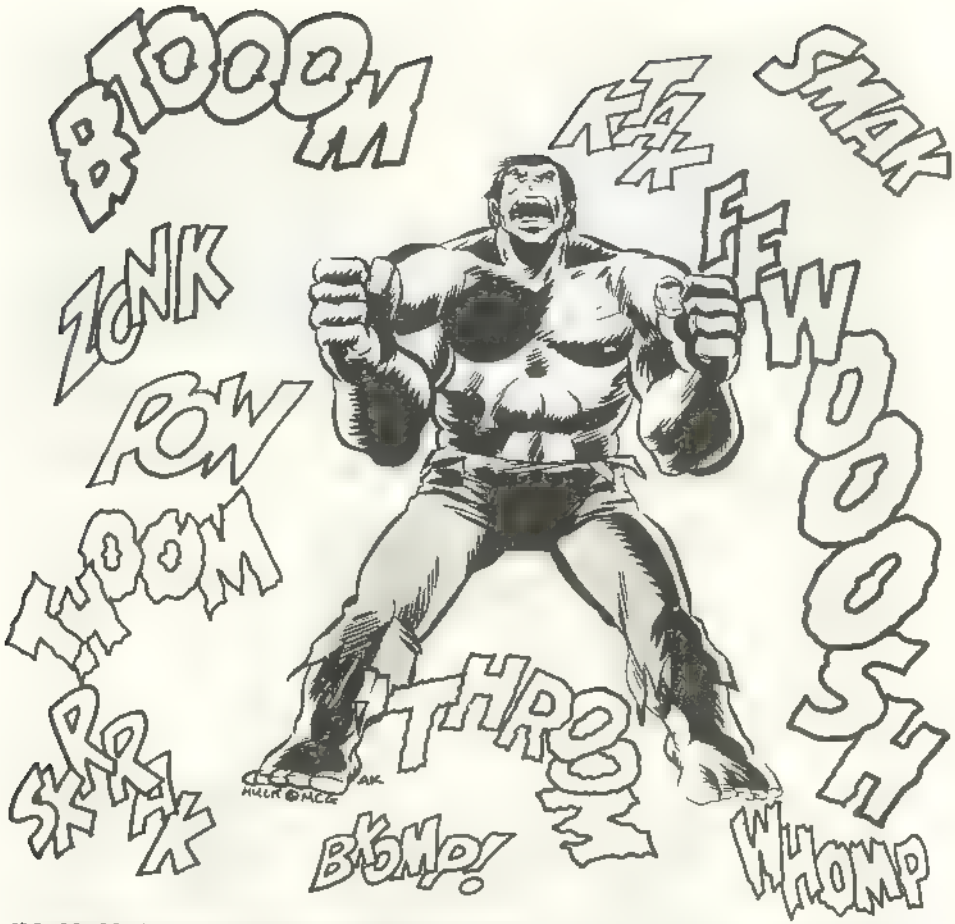

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D'con... *Beyond Our Wildest Nightmares*

BY STEVE UTLEY

The following article originally appeared in Etcetera Vol. 1, No. 7, an issue which was never distributed to the general public for various reasons. Anyway, it has timeless value and with the names changed, could probably serve as the story of any convention. Enjoy!

Eight zillion things suddenly did not fill the Committee members with good cheer. Where were the door prizes? Who was going to catalog three boxes of assorted fanzines that arrived late? Who was going to be stuck with the unenviable task of delivering unto the assembled multitudes the bad news that Frank Frazetta had called up at almost the very last minute to announce that he simply was not going to show up? Could the mass suicide of the Committee be scheduled for late Sunday afternoon?

D'con 1971, the sixth annual Southwesterncon, was a Kong-sized headache and appeared ready to go down no less embarassingly than did the Titanic.

Exhausted from too much work and not enough sleep, the Committee had it all made up to them the night before the convention officially began, when Famous Monsters' Forry Ackerman wandered into the dealers' room at the Sheraton Dallas, seated himself on the carpet and, like the starry-eyed kid he always has been and (the gods willing) always will be, began rummaging through a box packed with vintage issues of Amazing Stories. To those who had expected the guests of honor to hide themselves away in their rooms, it may have seemed like a helluva way to kick a convention into gear, but it set the tone for a four-day blitzkrieg of staccato-rap haggling, all night movies, and self-induced insomnia of epic proportions.

In addition to the time they spent having their minds tapped, guests Ackerman, Robert Bloch (the jovial soul responsible for the Nightwalker, The House That Dripped Blood and, ah yes, Psycho) and Andrew J. Offut (up-and-coming sf author and all-around nut) circulated freely, making themselves available to all fen and signing autographs until their hands turned black and curled into claws.

Sweet chaos reigned in Dallas for four incredible days and nights.

In the film room, Mister Joseph Young of Africa set the stage for the one 'n only original King Kong. Hisses greeted the Army Air Corps as it sallied forth to do battle with the erstwhile monarch of Skull Island; cheers rewarded the great one as he casually swatted a bi-plane out of the sky; no eye remained dry as a saddened Carl Denham uttered the fallen king's epitaph. Meanwhile, Gene Autry warbled down the walls of the phantom empire of Murania, Zorro rode again, and Captain America clobbered malefactors through fifteen thrill-saturated episodes, then staged an equally rambunctous (albeit briefer) comeback during the costume ball.

Maniacs roamed the aisles in the dealers' room, looking for bargains, eating their hearts out over dusty tons of movie posters, stills, yellowed pulp magazines, science fiction hardcover editions, Bib Little Books, Golden Age funnies, and underground comix.

And down in the room reserved for old-time radio buffs, the Shadow once again knew what evil lurked in the hearts of men.

Prepared for five hundred attendees, six at most, D'Con 1971 was all but overwhelmed by in excess of one thousand. The orgy of hari-kari that had been planned for late Sunday afternoon was called off and a fine action serial substituted. Sunday was all used up by the time Mota, the flying disc man from Mars, had his scheme for world conquest literally blown up in his face. The tribes packed their bags and picked up their tents while the Committee members gathered to pass around the aspirin.

"Well," spoke one, gently massaging his prematurely greyed temples, "Did we do it?"

"Did we do what?" moaned another.

"Did we succeed?"

"Ha! Beyond our wildest nightmares!!"

Steve Utley's feature pieces have previously appeared in TCR No.s 80 and 85. His next piece "Spanner In The Cogs" will appear in Etcetera Vol. 2, No. 1.

SO WHAT ELSE IS NEWS?

BY MANNY MARIS

NATIONAL LAMPOON DEPT: The theme for the January issue is DEATH and it includes Deadman comix by Neal Adams. February is the SEXUAL FRUSTRATION Issue with a Howard Taft comic section (the reason being old Howie had no sex life). March brings SWEETNESS IN LIFE with a cover by Harry Friedman --last of the great Collier cover painters who did all those happy, rosy-cheeked family scenes so typical of the forties. Themes for April and May are BIGOTRY and VIOLENCE, respectively. Son-of-God will now be a regular feature. Neal Adams is already working on a third and a fourth has been written. The 2nd BEST OF NATIONAL LAMPOON will be out in March and a third one is now planned for October. The third one is something special, an Encyclopedia Anthology by Michael O'Donoghue.

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MONSTER TIMES NEWS: Issue No. 18 will feature an article on Perry Rhodan by TRUE FAN ADVENTURE THEATER's Dwight R. Decker, the 1st Annual Monster Times Monster Poll, When Monsters Rules the Comics (on the Nedor group) by Art Miller, and an article on Willis O'Brien and His Missing Monster by TRUE F.A.T. editor Tony Isabella.

Issue No. 19 will feature a special preview of the coming Dr. Death movie by TRUE F.A.T. writer/artist Mark Evanier, a complete filmbook of Tarantula by Gary Gerani, an article on Hercules in the Comics, and a profile on Philadelphia's favorite fiend, Dr. Death.

Issue No. 20 will be a Frankenstein issue with a complete filmbook by Allan Asherman, a survey of Frankenstein's later films entitled The Decline of Frankenstein, and a complete filmography of all of Frankenstein's films. Plus an exclusive interview with actor Glenn Strange, who recounts the days when he played the Frankenstein monster. As a special bonus, there's a visit to the "real" Castle of Frankenstein in Neiderbeerbach, Germany.

Soon to be released in slick magazine format is THE BEST OF THE MONSTER TIMES, a collection of the best articles to appear in that publication. It will also include Steve Vertlieb's behind-the-scenes analysis of King Kong and the best of Godzilla's column. It will be out sometime after January and will sell for about sixty cents.

LANCER:

February brings "The Devil's Generation", an anthology edited by Vic Ghidalia and "Robots Have No Tails" by Kuttner. Other: There is a new trilogy coming from Michael Moorcock (if it is the same one recently released in England than it is the next series of Runestaff books beginning with"Count Brass" and "The Champion Of Garathorm".). Robert Hoskins, ex-editor in Lancer's sf department will edit the semi-annual anthologies "Infinity IV" and"Infinity V". A new anthology is expected from Lin Carter. Upcoming paperback versions of hardcovers include "Pig World" by Charles Runyon and "Change Song" by Lee Hoffman.

SWANK: They are currently looking for someone to do their 3 page comix section, first handled by Vaughn Bodé, then Berni Wrightson, and most recently by Jeff Jones. The editors were dissatisfied by Jeff's work because he would not bring up layouts or pencils but the finished product and thus gave the editors no chance to refuse or edit his work.

WARNER PAPERBACK LIBRARY:has gotten the rights to re-issue the Signet Mad paperbacks. They will begin with "Son

Of Mad". All volumes will cost 75¢ and have new covers. A new cover artist will be working on The Avenger paperbacks.

ACE:

January features "Science-Fiction: The Great Years", an anthology edited by Carol and Fredrick Pohl, No. 75430, $1.25. This volume starts off a series of books by different authors which will have a seal labeling them as 'SF FROM THE GREAT YEARS'. The second of which is "The Moon Is Hell" by the late John Campbell; the story of humans who set up a colony on the moon before NASA got there. Also included is a second novel from his old magazine "Unknown". Code No. 53870, 75¢. After that SFFTGY will be one volume per month.

Perry Rhodan 21 - "The Cosmic Decoy" by K. H. Scheer, aliens invade the solar system of Perry's home planet of Terra, No. 66004, 75¢. Rounding out January is a third SFFTGY book -- "Alien Planet" by Fletcher Pratt, the story of an earthman who is kidnapped by aliens and taken to a superscientific planet, No. 01570, 75¢, and an Ace SF Double -- "The Sky is Falling" and "Badege OfInfamy", two Lester Del Ray novels about a universe ruled by Martians. No. 76960, 95¢.

ERB SERIES: Since July Ace has been reissuing their ERB titles in regular paperback size with new covers. They are going to release 9 more ERB books. 8 of those will have new Frazetta covers:"Back To The Stone Age" (04632), "Land Of Terror" (46997), "The Land of Hidden Men" (47012), "Beyond The Farthest Star" (05652), "The Outlaw of Torn" (64510), "The People That Time Forgot" (65942), "Savage Pellucidar" (75132), "Tanar Of Pellucidar" (79792) and "Wizard of Venus" will have its old Krenkel cover. More ERB stuff is in the works too.

BALLANTINE:

January: "Orlando Furioso" an Italian epic poem by Ariosto, translated by Richard Hodgens, introduction by Lin Carter, No. 03057, $1.25. "Syzgy" by Michael Coney, the tale of a young man caught up in the chaos of the colony planet Arcadia, whose six moons go into erratic orbit every 52 years, No. 03056, $1.25. "A Werewolf Among Us" by Dean Koontz is the story of Baker St. Cyr, a cyborg (half human and half computer) who is hired by a wealthy family to solve a series of murders on their private planet, No. 03055, $1.25.

February: "The Charwoman's Shadow" by Lord Dunsany is a magical tale set in the twilight period of Spain's golden age. No. 03085, $1.25. "Neutral Stars" by Dan Morgan and John

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Kippax is the third release in the Venturer 12 spaceship series, No. 03086, $1.25. "Gods And Golems", an anthology of 5 novelettes by Lester Del Ray rounds out the books of interest. No. 03087, $1.25.

BALLANTINE ERB SERIES: The next six Tarzan books (7-12) are set for December release, and the six after that (13-18) will be released in March. All have the same cover paintings as the last printings, but have a price tag of 95¢. The John Carter of Mars books will be released one a month beginning in March.

Manny Maris is a staffer at The Monster Times, a book and fanzine dealer at conventions, and sundry other things in the wide world of fandom.

"FLASH...SHOULD I ZAP THEM FOR TELLING THE WORLD ABOUT US?!"

Everyone this side of STAR TREK knows about the world's most reknown sci-fi character, **FLASH GORDON**. Flash and compadres—irasable **Doc Zarkov**, delightful **Dale Ardeen** and the ever despicable **Ming The Merciless**—have made the scene just about everywhere. Starting off as a comic strip, then transferred to the serials, it even made television and comic books. Ol' Flash has sure been around, and now to chronicle all those trials and tribulations comes **HERITAGE**—devoted to Flash and Flash alone.

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And in case you're worried that this super Flash keepsake is fragile, forget it. This 80 page masterpiece is printed on super-heavy, super slick stock bound to last several lifetimes. The cover is illustrated in full-color by the original Flash delineator, **Alex Raymond**. And the cost? Fifteen dollars you say? Ten dollars? No, sir, this book is available from the friendly folk at **The Monster Times** for only $3.50 and 25 cents postage and handling. So what are you waiting for?

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In issue #3, we detailed the shocking story about how his depraved lust for comics drove a fan to suicide.

In issue #4, we proved that swiping another man's poses could be hazardous to a fan artist's health.

In issue #5, the respected Rev. Crossman selected our journal to speak out against the 7 deadly sins of fandom.

In issue #6, the renown Dr. Decker released his psychological survey of comic fans at conventions and in their native habitats.

In issue #7, we told the heart-rending story of how a formerly harmless mimeograph machine was driven to murder after years of maltreatment by its owners, comic fans all.

The staff of TRUE FAN ADVENTURE THEATER wants to continue its three years of service in outlining the dangers of comic book fandom to an unwary public. We are now campaigning to have all comic books and fanzines labeled "Warning: the Surgeon General is pretty sure prolonged reading is hazardous to your health."

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"A DREAM OF FANDOM" by DWIGHT DECKER and JOE JENKINS

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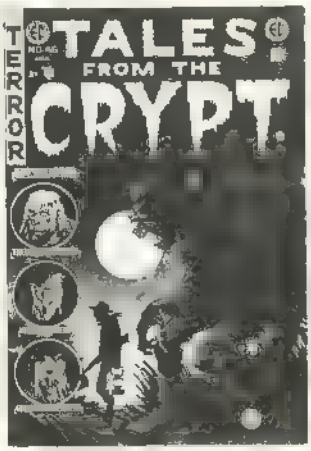

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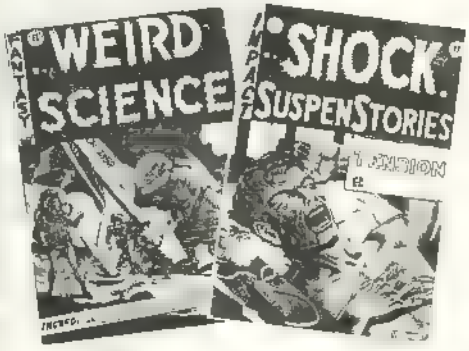

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Those of you who are familiar with his incredible work, will be joyously surprised to learn that his favorite creation, the SPIRIT is being reprinted.

The SPIRIT comic Sunday section was originally printed in a comic book form along with other features done by other artists. This little booklet appeared in your Sunday newspaper instead of the large cumbersome sheet of comics. This was a new and novel way to present some of the finest comics to appear for a long time.

As we mentioned, the SPIRIT is being reprinted in its original size and shape format. The weekly episodes of the SPIRIT will be released 10-8 page stories a month. 10 individual booklets packed in a nifty plastic bag in chronological order from the first episode in 1940 to the last in 1952, in sharp offset black and white on Will Eisner's press and under his strict scrutiny

What used to be a useless hunt for crumbling, high priced, and non existant original sections, is now gone forever. The sections are reprinted on good non-yellowing offset paper to keep your collection a treasured keepsake for the future.

Mr Will Eisner himself will personally supervise the entire project, which will be printed at his New York office from (except for the first few months where none exist) the original art and stats belonging to Mr Eisner. Finally you will know which ones were done by Mr Eisner, as only those sections will be printed

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BACK ISSUE DEPT.

No sooner did I sell off about 200 assorted back issues and clear my files than I found 50 copies buried in a file cabinet. I lose, and any of you who want copies win. Available at the present time:

THE COMIC READER No. 87 (July 1972)
Cover by Alan Kupperberg (of the original Captain Marvel).
Shazam news story.
Comic Art Fan Awards results for 1971.
The Wandering Fan (Tony Isabella) on July Con 72 and the awarding of the awards.
Jäch Spake on "Comics On Campus".
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Cover previews, news, reviews, and other features.
18 pages, 35¢.

THE COMIC READER No. 90 (October 1972)
News, coming comics, and covers (including Shazam 1).
The 1972 Comic Art Fan Awards nominating ballot.
Fanzine Revies (by Liam O'Connor) on Comic & Crypt 6 and The Collector 26.
Warren news debut.
Other news features.
Cover by Marc Bilgrey.
18 pages, 35¢.

THE COMIC READER No. 91 (November 1972)
Cover by Don Rosa, an interpertation of Kirby's Demon.
News, reviews, coming comics, cover previews, and so forth.
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FANZINE REVIEWS

by LIAM O'CONNOR

SHAZAM! THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF COMIX No. 7 represents one of the best remaining opinion zines.

It starts off with an interview with Carmine Infantino. Though somewhat dated (it was taped during the era of the 25¢ comic), it still is a very good interview. Next comes a feature on "Ads & Animation" by Mort Drucker (as told to STWWOC editor Neal Pozner). It describes how an ad campaign is planned and shows many of the basic drawings used for a particular campaign by Drucker.

Martin Pasko and Alan Brennert go on a tour of the Mad magazine offices in an article which was originally slated for the 5th issue of their defunct fanzine "Fantazine". A bit of Mad history is included in the tour.

There's a report on Newsday's short lived but noble "Graphic Opinion" experiment, a new form of editorial cartoons (or is it comic strips). The "G.O." strips utilized the talents of Barry Smith, Steve Englehart and Herb Trimpe, among others. The article was well written and I enjoyed the strips that were reprinted. I would like to see more of them.

A segment of Jeff Anderson's Phandom Stranger series follows. These are tales of fannish mystery, terror, and adventure. The Stranger debuted in True Fan Adventure Theatre and will next appear in TRUE FAT 9. I liked this installment and look forward to his future escapades.

The last portion of the books non-opinion material is a Billy Graham interview. The material is the usual interview stuff, but Graham's answers are funny and thought provoking at times.

Now for the opinion material.

Howard Campbell gives an indictment of comic art towards the beginning of the issue, and that sets the tone for the later pieces. His views are well thought out and although I don't agree with them, I recommend you at least read them.

Bernie Bubnis continues his series of articles on leaving fandom with "Exit Laughing", as well as an interview. We wish somebody would help him. For all con organizers there is a little piece about "Guerrilla Warfare at Comicons" which shows what some idiot does to get into a con and rip things off.

All this plus art makes STWWOC a good zine to get. $1 from Neal Pozner, 4028 Anne Dr, Seaford, NY 11783. 52 pages + a Mort Drucker 11 x 17 poster.

CURRENT COMICS IN RUMANIA

As an expert in the expanding field of comics criticism, I feel blessed and priviledged to have your undivided attention for the next 100 words. Herein, this article will be about Rumanian comics, however, as many of you know; not many of you know anything about Rumanian comics. Let alone Rumania. So let me give you a short rundown on the history of the graphic story medium in this country eliminating the important facts for my own zany subjective anagrams.

The curve de plus of comic art in Rumania was Rudolfe Valencia (1877-1908) who lived in Budapest. His family was quite wealthy being named after the Valencia peanut. Very prolific at an early age, Rudolfe amazed his grade school teachers with copious drawing on the blackboards of athletic men dressed in multi-colored pajamas leaping off rooftops and from speeding horse carraiges. Had Rudolfe been born in the States, he would likely to have been the Jack Kirby of the 1890s. Some of these blackboard drawings have been preserved intact on their original slate. I have seen them and can attest to their verve and expression. Later, Rudolfe inherited 500 horses from his uncle on the condition that he not attend Uruk Union, that city's famous art institute. But led by his passion, Rudolfe forsook animals, went to art school, and there met his life long influence, Wilhelm Busch. The rest is history.

To describe Rudolfe's work would mean that I'd have to say that it is stunning and very Rumanian. Oh, a bit about his subject matter. Most of his years as a comic artist were spent developing the super-hero in a progressions that encompassed the progression of super heroes in our home grown states, went many steps further with them, and predicted the most likely sequence of developments that our heroes will take in the future. He fully preceded Kirby's extrapolation of the super-hero into the before and after of the machine age by a full fifty years.

One of Valencia's best characters was Rampel the Onrusher. Based on a deep appreciation of James Joyce's novels (not then yet written) the series delves into the psychosometric underworkings of the mind of a budding aphrodesiac. The situations derived closely from autographed experience: (1) Rampel goes to work in a boiler factory, is scalded to death by a rain of hot material resembling Fritos, when buried, his coffin falls into an underground world of highly devised raccoons and crustaceans, they feed him on yogurt, he is revived, and discovers he has an amazing sexual appetite. This impels him to leave the animals (as in life), return to the surface world, and dedicate himself to being above other people and nations. He uses his sexual energy wherever and whenever enemies threaten the rebuilding of Rumania after the 30 Years War. As you can see, this clearly anticipates the early Superman.

Current Rumanian comics, much influenced by the freedom of mind imparted to the medium by the master, proceed at a clip far ahead of those in France or Belgum. The latest ones I have seen are into a vogue of high action fantasy about mind agents versus agents of the peace. The mind agents are the initiators of the past in disguise as politicians presently in power. The agents of peace are the initiators of the future disguised as normal people: farmers, freaks, part time secretaries--who are capable of circumventing and sabotaging the master plans of the mind agents by direct commando action but, more preferably, by subtle means. At least, that's how I see it. Many of the stories deal with only small incidents in this war, simple stories about the lives of the individuals behind the conflict. One of my favorites tells the tale of a girl making a daisy chain and the fun she has relating each flower to an incident in her short life. The action is her growing perception of life as reflected in the sequence of rememberances. We infer from the sensativity of her awareness that she will be a powerful agent of peace when grown. Another story tells about an aged candlemaker, slightly addled, who believed it is his duty to keep candles lit for each person then alive in his village, add candles for births, and perform the elaborate ceremony over snuffing candles when someone dies. By the way he wastes his life in a useless and pathetic occupation (self-torture), we get to know the mind agents better. It will be years, however, before foreign comic artists and writers can bring themselves to the level of craft and the degree of confidence in the medium necessary to work this trail. The possibilities are inexhaustible.

Continued on the next page....

fantasy film con!

REPORT BY PAUL HUGLI

The first annual Fantasy Film Con was held on the Thanksgiving weekend in Los Angeles at the Ambassador Hotel.

Forrest J. Ackerman opened the con with his keynote speech at 10:00 on Friday, delivered to an audience of about 200 people. He talked about the hopes of the con organizers and also announced the only disappointment of the con -- that the horror guest of honor, John Carradine, couldn't make it.

Sharply at 11 AM the films started and then ran continuously until 12 PM on Sunday the 26th. At many times three movies were playing at one time and painful choices had to be made.

At 8:00 PM we saw the LA premiere of "The Thing With Two Heads", with "Rosy" Greer and Ray Milland. It was a very funny movie satire on the old transplant movies.

After that came a showing of the great TV movie "Night Stalker" which was well received. After the showing, Barry Atwater (who starred in "NS" as a vampire) talked about the making of the film and mentioned that he would be in the sequel.

Saturday started with a Chuck Jones Film Festival with Chuck on hand to lend a personal touch and to tell about each of the cartoons. He also did some really nice sketches for the fans.

At noon Ray Bradbury gave a very interesting speech and told the audience a little about his new play -- Levitation 99 -- which is a futuristic Moby Dick.

Soon after that came a stop-motion animation demonstration by Jim Danforth and David Allen. Included were film clips from their movies and work at "Project Unlimited".

Then at 6:30 PM, came the event that I had been waiting for...the appearance of Christopher Lee, who got a 10 minute standing ovation when he entered the room and again when he left. Introduced by Robert Bloch, Chris opened up for questions immediately. We found out that his favorite actor is (was) W. C. Fields; he loved playing Sherlock Holmes; and that he was in America to work on a TV pilot (which, if accepted, would become a series. Just think...a TV series with Christopher Lee).

After Lee's talk came the auction, where material from Planet of the Apes, Sanford & Son, Star Trek, and other TV and movie series surfaced.

Sunday started with the Star Trek Film Festival, including viewings of "The Cage" (the original pilot), "Where No Man Has Gone Before" and the famous blooper reels. On hand were Roddenberry, Barret, Koenig, Takei, Fontana, Kelley, and Nichols.

Around 2:00 came a talk with producer George Pal. He discussed his sf films (Time Machine, War of the Worlds, et al) and his puppetoons.

Lastly came the World Premiere of "The Making Of Silent Running", a very interesting film.

Other speakers during the con included: Jim Sangster (writer of "Horror Of Dracula" and other Hammer films), Ruben Mamoulian (director of March's Jekyll & Hyde), Wes Bishop & Lee Faust (producer & director of "Thing With Two Heads"), June Foray & Daws Butler (voices for many cartoon characters), Jack Arnold (director of "The Incredible Shrinking Man), Leslie Stevens (creator of Outer Limits and Search), Jeff Rice (writer of the story that "Night Stalker" is based on), Doug Trumbull (director of "Silent Running"), and others.

Also there was a panel discussion among the serial people: Kirk Alyn, Spencer Bennett (director), Tom Steele, Duke Green, Frank Coghlan (Billy Batson), Bill Benedict and William Whitney.

The movie list is enormous. Besides 5 Star Treks, an Outer Limits, Kong, Son of Kong, Psycho, 7 Voyages of Sinbad, The Raven, Horror of Frankenstein, Dracula, Horror of Dracula, a few Night Galleries, Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde, Rosemaryh Baby, Silent Running, Things To Come, Metropolis, the Capt Marvel serial, Forbidden Planet, there were many more classics.

The con was one of the best organized cons I've gone to in years and I await next years.

RADAR IN THE VOID by Tom Greeniones (continued)

I am eager to see how Rumanian artists evolve this theme and recreate the present in their own vision. Many besides myself can no longer read american pro comics that mindlessly repeat the past in art, story, and attitude. Maybe it's a matter of too few young people who are competent craftsmen and who are not willing to submit their consciousness so completely to a proscribed product.

In closing, I'd like to urge you, yes YOU, to get to your corner drugstore and demand that they stock all current Rumanian titles. Even in the native language, they are very readable. If your druggest doesn't know what he's talking about; show him this article.

This is Tom Greeniones' farewell appearance in TCR. His new column, Shot In The Dark, will premiere in the first issue of Etcetera, on sale soon.

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NOTES

BACK ISSUE DEPARTMENT...see page 32 please.

NEXT ISSUE DEPARTMENT: TCR 93 will be mailed out around January 15th. (This ish is a touch late 'cause my printer went on vacation.)

MAILING DATES:

ETCETERA is complete and will be mailed out by December 28th. TRUE FAN ADVENTURE THEATRE is in still in production and is tentatively scheduled for mailing at the same time as TCR 93.

CIRCULATION DATA:

TCR 90:
First Printing:
1400 printed, 1400 sold
Second Printing:
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TCR 91: 1775 printed, 1750 sold

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